

II

BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
W. Moore, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
R. Frankham, B.A.P.H.I.

1967

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BOROUGH OF REIGATE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report on the public health, sanitary circumstances, and vital statistics of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1967.

The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 1/68, and contains the information requested in the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

As can be seen from the figures, the Reigate statistics follow the national trend closely. There was a very slight decrease in both the birth rate and the death rate.

There was no noteworthy epidemiological event in the Borough in 1967, apart from the expected biennial prevalence of measles which, in fact, was less extensive than usual, and an outbreak of dysentery which occurred in a local hospital. Otherwise, the case rates for the various notifiable infectious diseases were, on the whole, exceptionally low. Special reference might be made to the continuing decline in the incidence of tuberculosis and the satisfactory acceptance of protective inoculation against the range of infectious diseases for which effective immunising agents are now available.

Brief reference is made to the measures taken by the Public Health Department to ensure a satisfactory standard of purity and quality of water, milk and food supplies, sanitary inspection, duties under the Factories Acts, scavenging and cleansing, disinfection and disinfestation, supervision of caravan sites and other routine matters having a direct bearing on environmental hygiene and the prevention of disease and ill-health.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the support and consideration they have kindly extended to me throughout the year. I should also like to express my thanks to Mr. Frankham, the Chief Public Health Inspector, the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and efficient support, and to my colleagues in other Departments of the Corporation for their ready assistance and help.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM MOORE

Medical Officer of Health.

26th July, 1968.

Caberfeigh,
Hatchlands Road,
Redhill.

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water)	..	..	..	..	..	10,255 acres
Population, Census 1961	..	..	..	..	..	53,751
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population mid-year 1967	..	..	..	..	..	56,340
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1967, according to Rate Books	..	..	..	..	..	17,281
Rateable Value (1st April, 1967)	..	..	..	..	..	£3,005,552
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£11,980

Population

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year, 1967, was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 56,340. This represents a population increment of 410 on the corresponding estimate for 1966, of which 139 is attributed to natural increase (i.e. excess of live births over total deaths) and 271 to migration into the area.

The overall density of population is 5.49 persons per acre and 3.26 per inhabited dwelling; the corresponding findings at the census enumeration in 1961 were 5.24 and 3.37, respectively.

Births

The 794 live births (413 of males and 381 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1967 represent a recorded birth rate of 14.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted by the prescribed formula for the purpose of comparison, the recorded rate is advanced to 14.6, which compares with the national rate of 17.2 for the same period.

The illegitimacy rate of 50 per 1,000 live births is well below that for 1966.

Stillbirths

The five stillbirths in the year represent a stillbirth rate of 6.2 per 1,000 total (i.e. live and still) births. This falls well below the corresponding rate of 14.8 for England and Wales.

Deaths

The 655 deaths (315 of males and 340 of females) assigned to the Borough in 1967 represents a crude death rate of 11.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. When adjusted for comparison, this is reduced to 9.1, which compares with a corresponding rate of 11.2 for the country as a whole.

The number of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

<u>Age groups</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 4 weeks	7	6	13
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	1	2
1 - 5 years	2	1	3
5 - 15 years	2	1	3
15 - 25 years	3	2	5
25 - 35 years	1	4	5
35 - 45 years	6	1	7
45 - 55 years	14	12	26
55 - 65 years	68	36	104
65 - 75 years	78	48	126
75 and over	133	228	361
	<u>315</u>	<u>340</u>	<u>655</u>

Fifteen infants died in their first year, of whom twelve failed to survive for one week. All the infant deaths took place in hospital. The infant mortality rate for the year was 18.9 per 1,000 live births, which compares with an average rate of 19.9 for the preceding five years and 18.3 for England and Wales.

Nine persons were fatally injured in road accidents, and there were seven deaths from other accidental causes, mostly accidents in the home.

Deaths from other specified causes and their distribution by age and sex do not disclose any unusual features, apart from exceptionally low mortality from acute infectious diseases.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics for the year are set out in Table I and comparative statistics for the years 1934 to 1967 are shown in Table II.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 (As amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951)

This section confers the necessary powers to secure the compulsory removal to hospital or other suitable premises of persons suffering from grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

It was not necessary to exercise the powers under this Section during 1967. However, the staff of the Public Health Department were required to investigate three cases of elderly people living alone in a state of neglect and with the assistance of the domiciliary and supporting services available, the persons concerned were enabled to remain in their own homes, with an acceptable standard of care and amenity.

TABLE I
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	394	Females	360	Total	754
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	19	Females	21	Total	40

Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.1
Do. 1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.2
Do. for the five years 1962 to 1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.9

<u>Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births</u>	5.0
--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Still Births:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	3	Total	3
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	1	Females	1	Total	2

Rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.2
Do. do. 1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.5

<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Males	414	Females	385	Total	799		

Infant Mortality:-

Deaths of infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	8	Females	7	Total	15
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Infant Death Rate:-

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

Deaths of infants under the age of 4 weeks:-

Legitimate	..	..	Males	7	Females	6	Total	13
Illegitimate	..	..	Males	-	Females	-	Total	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	16.4
--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	------

Maternal Mortality:-

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

Deaths (net):-

Males	..	315	Females	..	340	Total	665
Do. 1966:-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Males	..	328	Females	..	334	Total	662

Death Rate:-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.6
Do. 1966	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.8
Do. for the five years 1962 to 1966	12.2

<u>Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public Institutions</u>	65.1
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Deaths from:-

Cancer (all ages)	106
Measles (all ages)	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
Gastro-enteritis (under 2 years of age)	-

TABLE II

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1934 - 1967

Year	Estimated Population	Live Births	Birth Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 population (unadjusted)	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
						Reigate	England
1934	35,400	417	12.4	409	11.5	39	59
1935	35,720	399	11.8	407	11.3	52	57
1936	36,000	456	13.2	443	12.3	36	59
1937	36,360	451	13.0	447	12.2	40	58
1938	36,630	478	13.6	415	11.3	32	53
1939	37,090	463	13.1	454	11.7	34	50
1940	41,970	447	11.1	579	14.2	34	55
1941	42,040	519	13.6	574	13.6	67	59
1942	40,060	581	16.5	496	12.3	45	49
1943	38,400	565	16.6	509	13.2	45	49
1944	36,360	593	17.9	524	14.4	41	46
1945	36,670	569	15.5	497	13.5	33	46
1946	39,690	677	18.9	493	12.4	32	43
1947	40,480	744	19.6	534	13.2	20	41
1948	41,770	611	15.6	453	10.8	28	34
1949	42,150	592	14.8	518	12.3	37	32
1950	42,030	554	13.7	564	13.4	22	30
1951	42,220	530	13.2	551	13.0	20	29
1952	42,460	599	14.4	532	12.5	21	27
1953	44,890	654	15.2	637	14.2	30	26
1954	47,610	666	14.4	572	12.0	13	25
1955	48,180	637	13.6	585	12.1	17	25
1956	48,730	663	14.3	592	12.1	7	24
1957	49,330	681	13.8	564	11.6	13	23
1958	49,760	750	15.1	655	13.2	20	22
1959	50,580	706	13.9	586	11.5	14	22
1960	51,230	793	15.4	660	12.8	18	21
1961	54,260	790	14.5	642	11.8	12	21
1962	54,680	841	15.3	705	12.8	17	21
1963	54,890	823	14.9	748	13.6	18	21
1964	55,150	863	15.6	643	11.6	28	20
1965	55,490	810	14.5	617	11.1	16	19
1966	55,930	793	14.2	662	11.8	20	19
1967	56,340	794	14.1	655	11.6	19	18

TABLE III
Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate
during 1967

				M	F	TOTAL
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	1	-	1
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..		2	1	3
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	4	3	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	26	7	33
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	-	11	11
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	-	3	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..		24	25	49
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	3	-	3
16.	Diabetes	..	..	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	31	65	96
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	77	65	142
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	3	4	7
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	28	46	74
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	19	23	42
22.	Influenza	..	..	2	1	3
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	25	21	46
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	16	9	25
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..		4	1	5
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	3	2	5
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	1	4	5
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	4	-	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	2	-	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..		25	38	63
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	7	2	9
34.	All other accidents	..	..	3	4	7
35.	Suicide	..	..	1	2	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	-	-	-
	Totals			315	340	655

SECTION II

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Every dwelling house in the Borough has a continuous and direct supply of water from the public mains, with the exception of a bungalow in Gatton Park, which has a piped and filtered supply from a nearby spring. The water from this source is of doubtful bacterial quality and periodic visits are made to the occupier of the premises to ensure that precautions already explained to him are being observed; samples taken were satisfactory. The substitution of a mains supply is not reasonably practicable in this case.

About 113 caravans on approved sites in the Borough are supplied with mains water by means of standpipes which, in all cases, are within reasonable distance of the caravans. Seventy other caravans have a mains supply to each, two being connected directly to the mains and the others through an intermediate storage tank.

There was no important extension of the public water supplies during the year, except that necessitated by new building development. The mains water supply, which is distributed in the whole area by the East Surrey Water Company, was adequate in quantity throughout the year and was augmented, when necessary, by distribution of water from the reserve boreholes at The Clears and Buckland. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers. Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted at least twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and/or bacteriologically about once a week under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company, thus avoiding duplication of sampling. Samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the analyst's reports are circulated for the information of the other districts concerned. These reports invariably indicated that the chemical and bacterial purity of the water reached a very high standard. The following report is typical of those received during the year:-

"This water is attractive in appearance and of very good organic purity. It corresponds in composition to a partially softened water from a deep well supply in the chalk.

The bacteriological condition of the water is excellent.

As judged by this examination the water is pure and wholesome and is suitable for the public supply".

With regard to fluoridation, no definite action has been taken on this preventive measure. The average content of the natural water supply in this area is 0.15 p.p. million.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough. Both are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation, and are equipped with the necessary plant for continuous filtration and chlorination. The baths are filled from the public mains and are emptied and re-filled if the chemical quality of the water tends to fall below the required standard; such action was not necessary in 1967.

In addition to the chemical tests that are made at least five times a day by the Baths Manager, samples of water from both baths were submitted for analysis at the height of the bathing season, and were reported to be of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.

Samples of water from four open air swimming baths at local schools were also submitted for analysis, and all were reported as satisfactory. All these baths are now equipped with automatic filtration and chlorination plants, and the Public Health Inspectors are provided with the necessary apparatus for checking the efficiency of the plant in operation during periodic inspections.

When sought, advice was given with regard to the maintenance of acceptable standards at swimming pools at private houses.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The arrangements for drainage, sewerage and sewage disposal are reasonably adequate in all parts of the Borough. Extensions and improvement carried out during the year included the laying of 3293 lineal yards of surface water sewer and 1371 yards of foul sewer.

Fifty-one premises in the Borough are served by septic tank/filter-bed systems of sewage disposal. Two installations draining individual properties were repaired and overhauled during the year, necessary owing to complete breakdown of the system resulting from lack of proper maintenance.

Four other septic tank/filter-bed systems, serving twenty-four premises (thirty living units), were also dealt with during the year. Two were new improved systems, the remaining ones being extensively altered and improved. All involved lengthy negotiations with the various owners concerned.

In all, five properties were connected to the main sewerage system during the year, involving the abolition of four cesspools.

The main sewage disposal works at Earlswood is now reaching the end of its useful life. The works are overloaded, inadequate and difficult to maintain. Discussions have taken place with the Borough Engineer's Department. A full review of the future of the works will have to be made in detail, and the possibility of replacement examined. These suggestions were being considered at the end of the year.

Closet Accommodation

All dwellings in the Borough are on the water carriage system, with the exception of about nine properties on the rural outskirts of the district, where the apparatus available is a pail or chemical closet, and disposal of sink waste liquids is to some form of cesspool or soakaway. Two of these have been void for several years.

Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction, pollution and rodent infestation.

Public Cleansing

I am indebted to the Cleansing Superintendent for the following information relating to the arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse:-

"In the early months of 1967 a weekly collection of refuse was maintained, but during the Spring, owing to a high percentage of absenteeism through sickness, it became necessary to re-introduce Saturday morning working to sustain a regular collection. It eventually proved impossible, however, to maintain a weekly frequency until the mid-Summer recruitment of student labour. The staffing position, with the assistance of students, then remained satisfactory until late September and a regular service prevailed during the late Summer and early Autumn

periods. During the latter months of the year the staff situation was once again aggravated by sickness and there were intermittent breakdowns in the regularity of service. Despite constant efforts to recruit there seems at present little hope of any labour becoming available for this arduous and unattractive work.

The Incentive Bonus Scheme would seem to be at a standstill and no apparent solution to the recruitment problem can be visualised in this direction, in the immediate future. Nevertheless, work re-measurement is expected to take place again during 1968/69.

There is a growing demand for the supply of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard bulk refuse containers and during 1967 fifteen were hired out, making a total to date of seventeen. There was a further sale of five containers bringing the total of nineteen sold since the scheme was first introduced. Many of these Paladin containers are on twice and thrice weekly emptying and at the existing rate of demand for bulk refuse containers this method of collection in the near future will necessitate a vehicle and refuse collection team to be engaged full time on this method of clearance.

Mid 1967 saw the publication of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Working Party's Report on Refuse Storage and Collection which proved to be a focal point at the Institute of Public Cleansing Annual Conference. Some of the Report's recommendations would involve huge sums of capital and revenue expenditure and the Minister indicated that plans should be laid to implement such recommendations but regretted, because of the economic situation, expenditure could not be sanctioned at the present time. Regrettably the skep method of refuse collection, condemned by the Report, remains a legacy until cash and labour are available to introduce alternative methods. Some consolation may be had, however, in that many of the other recommendations contained in the report were already being practised within the Borough of Reigate.

The full impact of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, has yet to be felt and it is expected that the awakening of the public interest will further increase the demand for special collections of bulky household discards, in order to avoid the heavy penalties for unauthorised dumping on open spaces. This widening pattern in the scope of refuse collection will inevitably further tax the Department's resources.

Car collection and disposal facilities still prevail as in 1966 and 375 were received, showing an increase of 34 per cent. on the previous year, making a total of 909 since the inception of the scheme in December, 1963. A free service operates for Borough residents delivering vehicles to the Works and a minimum charge of £1.10.0. is applied when a vehicle is required to be towed in by this Department.

The increasing new housing developments and other improved standards of living conditions reflect themselves continuously in the changing character of refuse. Refuse tonnages, though increasing slightly, are being outstripped by the increasing volume which affects vehicle and refuse disposal plant capacities.

Continuing the modernisation of the refuse collection fleet, two further Continuous Compression Loading Vehicles were put into service during the year and authority received for a further two replacements in the forthcoming year.

The operation of the ageing Refuse Disposal Works continued throughout the year, but was interrupted on several occasions because of collapsing internal brickwork of the furnace units. On such occasions the Department has had to resort to the controlled tipping of crude refuse at the Lavender pit.

In August, 1967, a further refuse disposal report was submitted to the specially appointed Sub-Committee. The various methods of refuse disposal were evaluated and a continuance of incineration was approved in principle. The Committee also approved the appointment of Engineering Consultants, with limited terms of reference, to investigate jointly the problems of refuse disposal and sewage disposal in the Borough of Reigate. Their report is awaited with considerable interest."

Shops and Offices

In accordance with local practice, all plans submitted to the Borough Engineer & Surveyor relating to shops are passed to the Chief Public Health Inspector to enable him to offer advice or suggestions, more particularly with regard to ventilation of shop fronts, lighting, sufficiency of sanitary accommodation, water supply and drainage.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, which made provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in such premises, came into operation in 1964. Inspections of registered premises continued throughout the year, the accent being on follow-up and supervisory inspections. Particulars of these are summarised in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Camping and Caravan Sites

The Corporation Caravan Site at Three Arch Road, Redhill, has accommodation for a maximum of thirty-nine caravans and is almost exclusively restricted to applicants having residential or occupational connections with the Borough. One plot is kept vacant and available for urgent and special cases. The site has continued to serve its purpose satisfactorily in helping to meet the needs of local caravan dwellers. There were three new lettings in 1967 and a total of forty-two families were in occupation at some time during the year.

There are also two privately owned caravan sites with accommodation for about one hundred and forty-two caravans. At one of these sites there are specially prepared plots for about seventy caravans of the "Mobile Home" class, each provided with mains water, electricity, internal water closet, bath and main drainage connection. The facilities at both sites conform with the Model Standards for caravan sites.

Atmospheric Pollution

Four contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations were recorded in the Borough during the year; improvements were achieved following representation to the firms concerned.

There were three complaints of smoke nuisance during the year, two at business premises and the third of indiscriminate burning of garden refuse in close proximity to dwelling houses. One case arose due to certain defects and to maladjustment of laundry steam raising plant, the other at business premises was caused as a result of burning waste material on a factory heating appliance. In all cases thorough investigations were made and advice given where necessary; the nuisances were abated as a result.

There was one notification of installation of a new boiler plant above the defined rating, at business premises in Reigate. Despite publicity on this requirement, it is still not being observed fully by builders and heating engineers.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

One case of infestation by bed bugs was reported and dealt with during the year. Infestations of this nature are now most rare.

Registered Common Lodging Houses

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Borough.

Factories Act, 1961

In accordance with the requirements of Section 153 (i) (a) of the Factories Act, 1961, I submit the following particulars of action taken during 1967 in relation to factory premises:-

(1) Inspections

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	10	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	203	62	-	-
(iii) Others	50	53	-	-
TOTALS	270	125	2	-

(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pros- ecutions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	3	3	-	1	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	-	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	14	7	-	3	-

(3) Outwork Sections 133 and 134

In compliance with the requirements of Section 133 (i) (c) notice was given by two local employers in respect of sixty-one outworkers employed by them in the painting of small plastic articles.

Two lists were received from other Authorities in relation to five outworkers, engaged in the making or altering of wearing apparel. Inspections were made, but no further action was required.

SECTION III

HOUSING

Statistical particulars relating to the demolition, closure and repair of unfit houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts are now submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The particulars supplied under these headings in respect of the year 1967, are briefly summarised as follows:-

(a)	(i) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, Section 42)	..	..	..	31
	(ii) Families displaced from Clearance Areas				11 (35 persons)
(b)	Individual unfit houses dealt with (Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 & 17) -				
	(i) Demolished	..	..	..	2
	(ii) Closed	..	..	..	-
	(iii) Families displaced	..	..	..	20 (58 persons)
(c)	Unfit houses made fit -				
	(i) Informally - by owner	..	..	..	56
	(ii) After formal notice	..	..	..	Nil

The following information is of interest:-

(d)	Number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	389
(e)	Number of dwelling-houses - included in (d) above - inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	10
(f)	Number of dwelling-houses represented as unfit and suitable for statutory action -	
	(i) Under Section 42, Housing Act, 1957	Nil
	(ii) Under Sections 16 & 17, Housing Act, 1957	3
	(iii) Under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	1
	(iv) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil
(g)	(i) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1966	1
	(ii) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during 1967	Nil
	(iii) Number of cases relieved during 1967	1
	(iv) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at end of 1967	Nil

The official representation of further Clearance Areas did not arise in 1967, and it is not likely that the need for this will recur in the current five years Unfit Houses Programme. Demolition Orders were made in respect of three properties in Garlands Road, Redhill; one other property was the subject of a Closing Order.

Thirty-one properties in Clearance Areas and two individual unfit houses were demolished during the year. Two other unfit units of accommodation, both within the same building, were the subject of undertakings given by the owner. At the end of the year, a total of 389 unfit dwellings had been demolished or closed and 355 families, comprising 947 persons, had been rehoused in accordance with the Council's programmes for the clearance of unfit houses.

The Council's Housing Manager has kindly supplied the following particulars with regard to rehousing:-

1.	<u>Number of new dwellings completed during the year</u>	
	Erected by Borough Council	59
	Erected by private enterprise	410
		<hr/> 469 <hr/>
2.	<u>Families rehoused from waiting list:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	20
	In permanent Council flats	53
	In old people's bungalows	1
	In miscellaneous property	4
	In old people's flatlets (conversions)	8
	In old people's flatlets (new)	2
		<hr/> 88 <hr/>
3.	<u>Families rehoused from clearance areas:-</u>	
	In permanent Council houses	14
	In permanent Council flats	16
	In old people's bungalows	1
	In miscellaneous property	1
		<hr/> 32 <hr/>
4.	<u>Families transferred from miscellaneous properties:-</u>	
	To Council houses	1
	To Council flats	2
	To old people's flatlets (new)	3
	To other miscellaneous properties	4
		<hr/> 10 <hr/>
5.	<u>Families transferred from Prefabricated Temporary Bungalows:-</u>	
	To permanent Council houses	9
	To permanent Council flats	15
	To old people's bungalows	1
		<hr/> 25 <hr/>
6.	<u>Families transferred from one type of Council dwelling to another:-</u>	104
7.	<u>Tenants of other Local Authorities who have exchanged accommodation with tenants of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	11
8.	<u>Tenant of private landlord who has exchanged accommodation with tenant of Reigate Borough Council:-</u>	1

SECTION IV

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

In compliance with the requirements of the Milk (Special Designation) (Special Areas) (No.2) Order, 1954, all milk sold by retail in the Borough must be heat treated, i.e. pasteurised or sterilised, with the exception of tuberculin-tested milk.

Milk supplies are sampled frequently on the lines and for the purposes mentioned in previous reports. The laboratory findings on samples examined in 1967 are summarised in Table IV, and show that the milk on sale locally reaches a high standard of bacterial purity.

Twenty-five samples of untreated milk and ninety-three of pasteurised milk were submitted for the prescribed test for keeping quality. Three of the former samples failed this test, two from one producer and the third from another, both having bottling plants outside Reigate. Liaison was maintained with the Local Authority concerned and also with the Ministry's Milk Production Officers; later samples taken were satisfactory, the problems having been resolved. The raw milk samples were also examined for the presence of brucella abortus, with completely negative results.

All of the samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk satisfied prescribed tests to indicate that the heat treatment had been correctly applied.

One sample of untreated milk submitted to biological examination was reported to be free from living organisms of tuberculosis; this periodic test is confined to farm-bottled tuberculin-tested milk that is not to be subjected to heat treatment.

TABLE IV

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

1. Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue			Phosphatase		Turbidity
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Test Void	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Untreated: 25	21	3	1	-	-	-
Pasteurised: 93	92	1	-	93	-	-
Sterilised: 4	-	-	-	-	-	4

2. Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
1	Nil	0.00

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 and 1965

There are four designations of milk under these Regulations - "Untreated", "Pasteurised", "Sterilised" and "Ultra Heat Treated". All milk sold for human consumption comes under one of these grades. Licences are issued for quinquennial periods, the current ones ending on 31st December, 1970, and they are also valid now elsewhere than in the area of the licensing authority. Three new dealer's licences were issued during 1967, and at the end of the year there were thirty-eight dealers with such licences, covering forty-seven premises in the Borough.

Adulteration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 47 and 48 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, nor under the Condensed Milk Regulations, 1959 and the Dried Milk Regulations, 1965.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives, in accordance with the Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962. No contravention of the Regulations was reported.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

These Regulations came into force on 1st January, 1964, and prescribed for the pasteurisation of all liquid egg to be used in food for human consumption, other than egg "broken out" in the food manufacturers' premises and used within twenty-four hours. The method of pasteurisation and the test to be applied were laid down in the Regulations. There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough, and no problem arose necessitating sampling during 1967.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. D.D.Moir, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., and samples of milk and ice-cream for biological and bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom.

There are five premises in the Borough at which ice-cream is manufactured for sale. In each case soft ice-cream is made from a sterile cold mix in a freezing machine, from which it is directly dispensed through a nozzle. Three of the premises are sweet confectioner's shops and have been registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, while the other two are cafes and exempt from registration. The proprietors of these establishments have accepted a code of practice for the proper control, cleansing and sterilisation of the freezing machines and equipment.

A total of 125 confectioners, grocers, fruiterers, etc., are registered for the retail sale of ice-cream, obtained in all cases pre-packed from one of the large manufacturers. Hotels, catering establishments and cinemas are exempt from registration.

Eighteen samples of ice-cream - all of which were taken from caterers in the Borough - were examined for bacterial quality by submission to the methylene-blue reduction test. All of these were placed in provisional Grades I and II, indicating that a satisfactory standard of cleanliness had been observed in manufacture, storage and handling.

SECTION V

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious diseases is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Patients from the Borough are usually admitted to the Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bletchingley, if the required accommodation and facilities are available; otherwise they are sent to suitable hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region.

The disposal to various hospitals of the eighteen infectious cases requiring institutional care in 1967, was as follows:-

Godstone Infectious Diseases Hospital	1 case (Scarlet Fever) 2 cases (Measles)
East Surrey Hospital (Thornton House)	2 cases (Puerperal Pyrexia)
Redhill General Hospital	12 cases (Puerperal Pyrexia) 1 case (Malaria)

In addition, several cases of uncomplicated minor infections were admitted to Hospital, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, on grounds of inadequate facilities for home isolation.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out generally in accordance with the suggestions contained in the Memorandum issued jointly in 1956 by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health.

Table V shows the numbers of cases of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospitals and the total deaths from each disease. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

Smallpox

No confirmed case of smallpox was reported in the Borough in 1967.

Scarlet Fever

Eleven cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year. Only one was admitted to hospital due to very poor home conditions. All the cases were clinically mild, but were investigated in the usual routine manner.

TABLE V

Cases of Infectious Disease (Other than Tuberculosis) Notified
During the Year, 1967

	Under 1 year	Cases notified in age periods											Totals	Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	4	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	11	1	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	-
Measles	20	73	99	116	137	263	13	10	4	-	-	-	735	2	-
Dysentery	-	1	5	2	5	20	11	7	19	16	18	5	109	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	46
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13	2	-	-	16	14	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
TOTALS	20	75	106	120	146	290	25	21	36	18	22	6	885	18	46
Totals 1966	13	81	99	119	106	330	16	7	13	3	4	-	791	7	48

* All forms

Whooping Cough

There was a marked decrease in the number of notified cases. The disease was generally very mild in character.

Measles

There was a sharp increase in the number of cases of measles, mainly occurring at the beginning of the year. Two cases were admitted to hospital; one an elderly patient and the second a child where the home nursing conditions were poor.

Dysentery

There was a very marked increase in the number of cases notified, but this was mainly due to an outbreak of the disease in a local hospital. Routine investigations and preventive measures were carried out by the staff of the Public Health Department.

Malaria

One case of malaria in an immigrant was notified. The patient was admitted to a local hospital, but later transferred and did not return to this area.

Pneumonia

Only two cases of pneumonia were notified, although there were forty-six persons who died from this disease. The reason for the apparent discrepancy is due to the fact that with many elderly patients it is a terminal event, and not officially notifiable.

Puerperal Pyrexia

Sixteen women, fourteen of whom were in local maternity units, were notified as suffering from rise of temperature in the lying-in period.

Food Poisoning

There were four notified cases of food poisoning. Full investigations were carried out, including bacterial examination of specimens.

Other diseases

Fourteen cases of acute illness, which were thought to be infective in origin, were admitted to hospital for investigation. Thirteen of these were subsequently confirmed as cases of bacterial or viral infection.

Tuberculosis

Particulars of the new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VI, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

Six new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs were notified in 1967, and two further notifications were received post-humously. This represents a case rate of 0.11 per 1,000 of the population. This is the lowest case rate recorded in the Borough and stresses the importance of routine x-rays of the chest, especially among those more likely to develop the disease. The National Health Service offers miniature mass x-ray facilities and B.C.G. inoculation for children.

No new cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year under review.

In addition to the new cases, i.e. those notified for the first time, there were reports of two previously known cases of tuberculosis (one respiratory and one non-respiratory) which had been notified elsewhere and taken up residence in the Borough.

The names of forty cases were removed from the register of tuberculous patients; seven on death, seven on moving from the district and twenty-six on complete recovery from the disease. It is interesting to note that in only one case was the cause of death attributable to tuberculosis.

At the end of the year there were 137 known cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, including 116 (75 males and 41 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 21 (8 males and 13 females) with tuberculosis of other organs. In many of these the disease is quiescent or arrested, but all are regularly visited and supervised by the staff of the local Chest Clinic. The total number of cases represents a reduction of thirty on the corresponding figure for 1966.

Mass Radiography

A total of 3,470 persons (1,290 males and 2,180 females) were examined through the normal Mass Radiography Service at public and industrial surveys in the Borough. Of those so examined, two men were found to be suffering from respiratory tuberculosis, which had hitherto been unsuspected.

TABLE VI

New cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1967, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

Age Periods	Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	..	..				
1 - 5 years	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45 years	..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Totals 1966	7	2	1	-	-	-	-	-

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox is now undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notifications of vaccination performed during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Vaccination	60	503	31	594
Re-vaccination	-	8	438	446

The foregoing figures represent an increase in the primary vaccination of infants which, in accordance with official advice, is now postponed until the second year. The number of re-vaccinations also shows a substantial increase, which is attributable to the numbers of children re-vaccinated for foreign travel with their schools.

Records of vaccination and re-vaccination are not now required in respect of persons over the age of fifteen years; these were formerly included in the totals and, for the most part, related to persons who required valid International Certificates of Vaccination for the purpose of foreign travel.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1960/63</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>Total</u>
	305	340	18	10	23	13	709

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 1398 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The County Council's scheme is aimed at the vaccination against whooping cough of infants under the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later. The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year, either at the County Council's Clinics or under private arrangements, are as follows:-

Year of Birth:	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1960/63</u>	<u>Others under</u> <u>16 years</u>	<u>Total</u>
	305	340	19	9	11	2	686

Reinforcing injections of whooping cough vaccine were given to 586 children who had completed a course of primary immunisation a year previously.

Vaccination against Tetanus

Vaccination against tetanus is available to children whose parents expressly wish them to be so protected. It is the present practice to advise primary immunisation against tetanus before the age of six months, with reinforcing doses about one year later and again at school entry and between the ages of eight and twelve years. Tetanus vaccine may be given separately, but is usually combined with the agents used for active immunisation against diphtheria.

The numbers of persons vaccinated against tetanus in 1967, are as follows:-

0 - 4 years	695
5 - 14 years	119
	<hr/>
	814
	<hr/>

Reinforcing doses 1398

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

There was no extension of the groups eligible for vaccination under the County Council's arrangements, which include persons up to the age of forty years and those who are considered to be exposed to special risks. Oral vaccine has now superseded Salk vaccine, which is given by injection, and is administered in three doses spread at intervals of four to eight weeks, followed by reinforcing doses three or four years later.

The numbers vaccinated against poliomyelitis by their own doctors or at County Council's Clinics during the year are as follows:-

	<u>Oral Vaccine</u>	<u>Quadrilin</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Immunisation	673	1	674
Reinforcing doses	770	-	770

Measles Vaccination

During 1967 a proportion of children were vaccinated against measles in this area, but a full-scale immunisation programme will not be provided until 1968.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The County Council's arrangements for routine B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis extend to thirteen-year-old pupils at County Council and independent schools, and also to some older pupils and students at County Colleges and other establishments for further education. Subject to the consent of their parents, persons in these groups are skin tested to ascertain if they have already had a primary tuberculous infection, and those giving a negative result are offered B.C.G. vaccination. The object of the scheme is to protect young people before they leave school and so widen their range of contact with possible sources of infection.

Testing was conducted at five schools in the Borough during the year, with the following results:-

Number of pupils in age group	367
Number consenting to treatment	315
Percentage consenting to treatment	85.8%
Number Mantoux tested	292
Number of negative reactors	276
Percentage giving negative reaction	94.5%
Number vaccinated	276
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100%
Percentage of age group vaccinated	75.2%

In addition to the above, 79 pupils who, for one reason or another had failed to attend on previous occasions were skin tested; 76 were negative reactors and were successfully vaccinated.

The foregoing figures are roughly in accord with those for recent years, except for an increase in the proportion of pupils giving a negative reaction to the Mantoux test. This is, no doubt, directly related to the declining incidence of infectious cases of tuberculosis in this area.

While the main purpose of the scheme is the ascertainment and vaccination of children who have not already had a primary infection, it is the usual practice to arrange, where possible, for x-ray examination of positive reactors to exclude the possibility of active infection. No unfavourable x-ray findings were reported during the year.

In addition to the above, a special investigation was carried out at an independent school in the Borough, following a report that a member of the domestic staff was suffering from infectious tuberculosis of the lungs. All pupils who may have been in contact with the case were offered the Mantoux skin test; eighty-two acceptances were received and eighty-one children, being negative reactors, were subsequently vaccinated. The child who showed a positive result was x-rayed and followed-up at the Chest Clinic. The staff were also investigated and x-rayed. All the findings were satisfactory.

Protection against other diseases

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic and is usually undertaken at specified centres.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from reports of school absentees, the periodic statements of sickness claims submitted to the local office of the Ministry of Social Security in relation to insured persons and the Registrar's weekly return of deaths. Cases also come to notice through enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection, casual communications by private medical practitioners and applications for domestic assistance under the Home Help Scheme. The occurrence of cases at the Day Nursery and in residential children's homes is also reported.

The information obtained from these various sources indicated that the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious illness in the Borough in 1967 was low and caused little interference with employment or school attendance. There were 36 cases of chicken-pox, 59 reports of mumps and 3 of German measles.

Disinfection

There are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles that are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

Uncleanliness

Pediculosis

In the course of selective school hygiene inspections eleven individual pupils were found to be affected with pediculosis which, in most instances, was of minor degree and confined to nits in the hair. All were promptly and satisfactorily cleansed in their own homes, with any necessary advice and assistance from the Health Visitors, including the loan of nit combs and cleansing agents.

Scabies

Cases of scabies are much less common than formerly. Three cases were reported, treated at a local clinic and arrangements made, at the same time, for the disinfection of bedding, towels and personal clothing.

BOROUGH OF REIGATE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.
FOR THE YEAR, 1967

Public Health Department,
"Caberfeigh",
24, Hatchlands Road,
REDHILL, Surrey.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit my Annual Report of the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1967.

Following the resignation of one of the District Inspectors in July, with little hope of appointing a successor, the effective field staff was reduced overnight by 25%. This, of course, forced a setback in certain schemes which had begun to make an impact.

Housing work suffered immediately and the proposed survey, preparatory to "pushing" improvement works in several selected areas, had perforce to be postponed again. Another early casualty was the close scrutiny of the "local glass of beer" - the inspection and improvement of local Inns and Public Houses - and work on these was curtailed somewhat, too.

On a brighter note voluntary house improvement work resulted in a further 82 units being improved during the year, mainly by the provisions of bathrooms, hot water supplies and internal W.C's; this made a total of more than 740 dwellings improved since the scheme began.

Supervision in the hygienic sale of food was noteworthy for one prosecution of a restaurant proprietor for unsatisfactory conditions, amounting to a most unsanitary state in catering premises in Redhill. The total fines and costs imposed of more than £350 were an indication of the serious view taken by the Bench; a salutary warning, indeed.

Meat inspection at the Merstham slaughterhouse, a 100% inspection service since the premises were reopened in 1954 following Ministry decontrol, continued uneventfully at the same level.

By the end of the period six years had elapsed without any evidence being found of rats in sewers, during the annual sewer inspections and treatments. Bearing in mind the serious reservoirs of infestation in certain sewers during the early postwar years, this is a singular victory; one that may only be maintained so, however, by constant vigilance by your Pest Officers. The transformation of central Redhill proceeds but slowly and we are fortunate to have been so far free of infections, infestations and like complications. Dare one suggest that the efforts of your professional and technical officers generally have been directed to that end with some success, also?

The guidance and solid backing of Dr. A. Moore is freely acknowledged, as is also the co-operation the Inspectors enjoy with Dr. Gwen Tapp, his Deputy. Thanks too to the staff for their help, particularly so my Inspector colleagues when such is sought during any of the 24 hours of the day. In fleeting change, I have found you of the Public Health Committee rather bewildering at times, however none the less helpful and considerate on problems brought to you, for which I am grateful.

I remain,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

At your Service,

R. FRANKHAM.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

26th July, 1968.

Infectious Disease, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 109 visits of enquiry were made on behalf of the Medical Officer of Health in connection with cases of infectious disease and suspected food poisoning.

The disinfection and disinfestation of material continued to be carried out at the Council's Disinfecting Station at the Disposal Works, Redhill. This was done either in the steam disinfecting apparatus or by chemical means in the fumigation chamber. As before the service was also available to five neighbouring authorities:- Caterham and Warlingham U.D.C., Dorking and Horley R.D.C. Epsom and Ewell Borough, Godstone R.D.C., and Leatherhead U.D.C.

Details are given below of the work carried out, including that at the Station and, unless otherwise indicated, relate to articles of bedding, clothing, furnishings, etc:-

(1) Reigate Borough

Items	80
Rooms	18

(2) Caterham & Warlingham U.D.C.

Items	41
-------	----

(3) Dorking & Horley R.D.C.

Items	78
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(4) Godstone R.D.C.

Items	306
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(5) Leatherhead U.D.C.

Items	6
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The arrangement for the disinfection of library books by formalin vapour continued to be available.

The infestation of dwelling-houses by vermin, such as bed-bugs and fleas, was minimal; one case of the former was dealt with during the year. Regular attention for cockroach disinfestation was necessary at an old people's home; insect pest control under contract arrangements was continued at a hospital and fire brigade premises; similar work was carried out at schools in the Borough, as and when necessary, on behalf of the County Education Authority. Infestations of flies or ants were dealt with at seven dwellinghouses, a school canteen, a church, and a clinic.

Three cases of elderly persons living alone in insanitary conditions were dealt with by the Department during 1967.

The disinfection of telephones in all departments was continued throughout the year by the Disinfecting Officer, when about 160 telephones were dealt with monthly.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection

This subject is governed by the following legislation:-

- (a) Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.
- (b) Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.
- (c) Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 62 - 79 - Slaughterhouses and Knacker's Yards.
- (d) Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.
- (e) Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958.
- (f) Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 - 52.
- (g) Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.
- (h) Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection (Continued)

Nine applications by slaughtermen for the renewal of their licences were granted at the beginning of the year. No infringements of the Act were noted during 1967.

The slaughterhouse at Nerstham, modernised in 1963, provides for a "line-system" of slaughter and dressing; it continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year.

As before, 100% inspection of meat was achieved throughout the year, this having been the case since 1954 when the slaughterhouse was originally extended and reopened. There was a fall in the animals slaughtered during the year in most categories and the incidence of disease fell to a minor degree. Tuberculosis remained at a minimal level. Cattle found to be affected with cysticercus bovis, a parasitic disease which may lead to the development of tape-worm in humans, showed a further fall in numbers, although there was a small increase in bovine animals slaughtered. See tables on pages 30 & 31 for further details.

Arrangements for the disposal of diseased meat continued to be satisfactory, and an arrangement - already in operation - was continued, to allow for such meat as appropriate to be consigned to a Pink Farm, as is permitted under the Staining and Sterilisation Regulations.

In calculating the percentage of animals found on inspection to be affected by disease, other than tuberculosis or cysticercosis, figures relating to cattle and sheep affected with liver fluke, and to pigs suffering from pneumonia or lung congestion, are disregarded, as these are common conditions not of value for comparative statistical purposes.

The licensed knacker's yard at Three Arch Road, Redhill, continued operations throughout the year, being used for the cutting up of carcasses of animals which had died or had been slaughtered on the owners' premises. No horses or other animals were slaughtered here during the year. Certain items of maintenance were drawn to the attention of the owner, and improvements to the meat sterilization apparatus were discussed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 -

Sections 8 & 9 - Food Unfit for Human Consumption

The inspection of food stuffs at premises throughout the Borough continued to be made during the routine inspection of food premises and during sampling visits; also at the special request of food traders. Calls in the last category remain at a minimal level nowadays, it being usual for unfit prepacked foods to be returned through trade channels. Breakdown in refrigeration plant in retail shops selling frozen foods accounted for a large proportion of food surrendered.

There were 23 complaints to the Department during the year of alleged unsatisfactory food; three others were of dirty food containers. Nine of the cases were attributable to foreign material, although on investigation one was found to be unjustified. Two were of oily deposits in bread (always a possible hazard in the bakery trade); two were of insect larvae in chocolate confectionery (a known risk for which manufacturers take strict precautions); two were of objects in milk, their origins and mode of discovery being in some doubt; the remaining two comprised wood material and dust contamination where neglect in storage at some stage was indicated.

The remaining fourteen cases included a proportion where poor stock rotation and overlong storage was the cause, four being in this category. Four others were due to the failure of tinned food containers, all found to be isolated cases arising from certain mechanical defects. The remainder (6) - a fairly high proportion - were obscure and inconclusive on investigation. It may be a sign of the times that housewives are now more discriminating and perhaps over cautious where doubt arises over food quality; an attitude of mind which is undoubtedly all to the good.

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle (Excluding Bulls and Cows)	Bulls	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
NUMBER KILLED	639	-	23	187	3,133	3,790
NUMBER INSPECTED	639	-	23	187	3,133	3,790
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCUL- OSIS & CYSTICERCI Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	1	2	4	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	123	-	7	4	129	512
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	19.56%	-	34.78%	3.2%	4.24%	13.87%
	♂ 7.4%	-	♂ 13%	-	♂ 2.04%	≠ 8.2%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	-	-	-	-	-	12
Percentage of the number inspected aff- ected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	0.34%
CYSTICERCOSIS Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submit- ted to treatment by refrigeration	6	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

♂ Percentage excluding Distomatosis

≠ Percentage excluding Pneumonia and Congestion of Lungs.

The total weight of carcasses and offals condemned was $2\frac{3}{4}$ tons.

There were no horses slaughtered for human consumption during the period.

MEAT INSPECTION - REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

Description	Number Slaughtered	Tuber- culosis		Inflammation	Fever	Dropsy and/or emaciation, also Immaturity	Congestion	Injury	Septicaemia	Nephritis	Fascioliasis & Cirrhosis	Parasitic	Abscesses	Pleurisy and Peritonitis	Pneumonia	Tetanus	Miscellaneous	TOTAL
		Generalised	Localised															
BOVINES (excluding calves)	652	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Whole Carcases and Offal		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Part Carcases		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Heads and Tongues		-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	76	1	18	9	-	2	-	108
Livers and Part Livers		-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Resentery and Intestines		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
CALVES	187	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whole Carcases and Offal		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
STEEPS	3,133	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Whole Carcases and Offal		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Part Carcases		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	3	-	-	-	12
Livers		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	44	-	-	5	-	-	109
PIGS	3,790	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whole Carcases and Offal		-	-	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	14
Part Carcases		-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	41	63
Heads and Tongues		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	17
Lungs		-	-	-	-	-	118	-	-	-	-	56	4	65	95	-	-	304
Livers		-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	2	69
Resentery and Intestines etc.		-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	39	45
TOTALS=	7,772	-	12	9	-	3	120	2	18	1	145	109	65	98	100	2	83	767

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 -
Sections 8 & 9 - Food Unfit for Human Consumption (Continued)

During 1967 the following food stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were surrendered to the Inspectors for disposal at the Council's Refuse Disposal Works:-

Meat and offal	4 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts.
Meat - canned	448 tins
Fish	47 lbs.
Sugar and Confectionery	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.
Frozen Food	1,301 packets
Tinned Fish	541 tins
Tinned Fruit	1,829 tins
Tinned Milk	38 tins
Tinned Vegetables	695 tins
Biscuits	829 packets
Cereals	371 packets
Fats	6 lbs.
Beverages & Bottled Juices	212 jars and bottles
Fruit	552 lbs.
Miscellaneous packet food	835 packets
Ice Cream	40 lbs.

This work involved 53 visits by the Inspectors.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21 - Hygiene in connection with the sale of Food, etc. to the Public

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

The routine inspection of food premises generally indicated that a satisfactory standard of hygiene was being maintained, it being necessary in one case only to report to the Public Health Committee on the need for considering legal action. This case arose at a restaurant in Redhill, where conditions were grossly insanitary and little or no progress had been made in getting an improvement. All the hygiene contraventions reported were found proved at the Court hearing and fines and costs totalling more than £360 were imposed. The premises in question had already closed down prior to the hearing.

In November special paint transfers, under a "Reigate Borough Council" heading, requesting customers not to take dogs into food premises, were obtained and issued to appropriate food traders in the Borough. Most traders were appreciative of this opportunity to discourage this habit and fifty eight of these dog notices were issued to Butchers, Grocers, Fruiterers, Fishmongers and Cake Confectioners.

New Regulations controlling the sale and transport of food from markets, stalls and delivery vehicles came into force at the beginning of the year. Although certain hygiene requirements and additional facilities on some types of food vehicles become obligatory, there are exemptions for others when transport of food is undertaken between food businesses where adequate facilities already exist. Advice on the new requirements was given as and where necessary. Inspections were continued of mobile food traders operating in the Borough and 31 routine checks were made in such cases.

REGISTER OF FOOD PREMISES AND PARTICULARS OF WASHING FACILITIES

Type of Business	Number of Premises	Wash Hand Basins Provided	Sinks	
			Required	Provided
Grocers	95	95	95	95
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	36	36	36	36
Butchers	34	34	34	34
Fishmongers	18	18	18	18
Bakehouses	9	9	9	9
Confectioners, Cake	8	8	8	8
Confectioners, Sweet	80	80	22	48
Food Manufactories	2	2	2	2
Catering Establishments:-				
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	69	69	69	69
Licensed Premises	63	57	63	70
School Kitchens	23	23	23	23
Clubs	13	13	13	13

REGISTER OF FOOD PREMISES AND PARTICULARS OF WASHING FACILITIES (Continued)

Primary inspections made at food premises were as follows:-

Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Fruiterers and Green grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Vehicles and stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

Routine follow-up inspections under the Regulations numbered 262 and 729 visits of inspection for all purposes were made to these premises.

Premises which are required to be registered under Section 16 are shown below in detail as being on the register at the end of 1967.

(a) Manufacture and sale of preserved foods, etc:

<u>Type of Premises</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Butchers, etc.	32	57
Fish-fryers	9	21
Bakers (manufacture of meat pies)	2	7
Delicatessen shops	3	9
	<u>46</u>	<u>94</u>

(b) Manufacture of Ice-Cream

Confectioner	<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>
---------------------	----------	-----------

(c) Storage and Sale of Ice-Cream

Confectioners, etc.	74	35
Grocers, etc.	38	23
Fruiterers, etc.	4	15
Newsagents, etc.	7	3
Garages (Not selling yet)	1	-
Fishmongers	1	1
Total	<u>125</u>	<u>77</u>

In addition to these premises, there are 13 catering establishments where ice cream is sold for consumption off the premises, these being exempt from registration under existing law, and there are two of these premises where soft ice cream is manufactured.

The arrangement was continued with the Borough Engineer whereby any plans of food premises, submitted for Bye-law approval, were examined in the Department and comments made on any aspect of environmental hygiene involved.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 - Section 89 - 99
Sampling and Analysis

One hundred and four samples purchased by the Sampling Officers were submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, 29 being formal samples and the remainder taken informally.. They covered a wide range of commodities and one only was the subject of adverse report by the Public Analyst.

This related to Sample No. 57 one of Quick Jel, a food glazing product where the labelling was found to be unsatisfactory; this was amended by the manufacturers.

Participation in a scheme was continued, as started in 1966 with other authorities up and down the country, for the systematic sampling of certain foods to provide data on the extent of contamination by toxic chemicals (particularly organochloride pesticide residues). The scheme arose on a request from the Government to the Advisory Committee on the subject "to consider and advise on improvements to present safety arrangements desirable to provide greater protection against hazards arising from the use of toxic chemicals in agriculture and food storage". The rota organised at county level, indicating the samples apportioned to the various authorities, was carried on during the year. Four samples were to be procured during the period, stipulated as follows:- Strawberries, lettuce, bread (white), and milk. Strawberries and lettuce had both been procured and analysed before the end of the period and both were satisfactory, although a minute quantity of D.D.T. was reported to be present in the former.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926 and Orders made thereunder

These Orders relate to the following imported foodstuffs:-

Fresh apples; currants, sultanas and raisins; eggs (in shell); dried eggs; oat products; raw tomatoes; bacon and ham; dead poultry; meat; margarine; malt products; frozen or chilled salmon and sea trout; butter; honey.

They provide that on sale the goods shall bear an indication of the country of origin, the object being to give the purchasing public the opportunity of choosing between goods of Home, Commonwealth or Foreign origin.

Upwards of 30 inspections were made at retail shops during the year without noteworthy incident.

Milk and Dairies General Regulations, 1959

The entries in the Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

Distributors:

(a) With 3 dairies in the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) With dairies outside the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	4
(c) With premises in the Borough						
(bottled milk sold in general shops)	...	...	...	...	...	38

The three dairies in the Borough are now only used for the storage and distribution of milk. As has applied for several years now, all milk sold in the Borough must be heat treated with the exception of farm-bottled tuberculin tested milk now sold under the designation "Un-treated".

Frequent samples of the various grades were taken on a regular sampling basis. Unsatisfactory reports arose in the cases of 3 raw milk samples. A detailed report of this sampling is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - SAMPLING

(Public Analyst: D.D. Moir, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C.)

	Samples Taken			Adversely Reported Upon
	Formal	Informal	Totals	
Beer	2	-	2	-
Bread & Flour	-	3	3	-
Cheese	-	2	2	-
Confectionery - Cake	-	5	5	-
Confectionery - Sweet	-	6	6	-
Drugs	-	12	12	-
Fish & Fish Products	-	1	1	-
Fruit - Dried or Canned	-	6	6	-
Fruit Drinks	-	2	2	-
Jams & Marmalade	-	4	4	-
Jellies	-	1	1	-
Meat & Meat Products	2	8	10	-
Milk	12	2	14	-
Milk Products	1	5	6	-
Nut Foods	-	3	3	-
Soups	-	4	4	-
Sauces	-	3	3	-
Sausages	9	-	9	-
Savoury Quick Set	-	1	1	1
Spirits	3	-	3	-
Vegetables	-	2	2	-
Yoghurt	-	1	1	-
Miscellaneous	-	4	4	-
Totals	29	75	104	1

Hairdressers' and Barbers' Establishments

The premises used for the purpose of carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber in the Borough are subject to bye-laws made in 1954, under Section 135 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1936. These bye-laws require the persons carrying on the business to maintain cleanliness of the premises and of the instruments, towels, equipment and materials used therein. During 1967, no serious infringement of the bye-laws was noted. At the end of the year, the register of premises contained particulars of 13 men's and 30 women's establishments.

Factories Act, 1961

The table on page 37 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Act. During the year 125 inspections were made. The Register of factories has been further brought up-to-date and now contains 270 entries; in 13 cases defects relating particularly to sanitary accommodation and general cleanliness were discovered; defects in 6 factories were remedied. H.M. Inspector of Factories drew attention during the year to three cases involving defects which came within the sections of the Factories Act enforceable by the Local Authority. Over 50 inspections were made at building sites and work of engineering construction; in the main it was found that improved temporary sanitary facilities were being provided.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There is only one factory which is subject to the provisions of this Act - one in which spring mattresses are manufactured. This is registered in accordance with Section 2. No samples of rag flock or other fillings were taken during 1967.

Housing Acts, 1957 to 1964. Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 & Rent Act, 1957
Housing Subsidies Act, 1956. Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956
Housing (Management of Houses in Multi-Occupation) Regulations, 1962

As outlined in the report of the Medical Officer of Health no further clearance areas arose for action in 1967; three individual Demolition Orders and one Closing Order were made. Thirty three properties were demolished during the period and two unfit units of accommodation were closed. Ninety-three persons, comprised of 31 families, were rehoused from unfit properties, all this being the result of earlier action.

Of the 85 houses described in the last Report, as comprising the third programme, to be commenced in 1967, twelve have already been dealt with, eight of these informally being already in the ownership of the Corporation. The remaining 73 may well be depleted by one third if attempts to achieve repair and improvement by informal action are successful; perforce this is a protracted operation.

No applications were received under the Rent Act, 1957, and no action was necessary, in consequence.

Investigations at houses in multi-occupation revealed a number of cases where improvements in amenities were necessary. As in the past, such improvements related to increased sanitary accommodation, personal washing facilities, hot water supplies, better food storage and preparation facilities and improved lighting and heating. In co-operation with the Borough Engineer close control was exercised on proposed conversions of this type and fire prevention officers of the Surrey Fire Brigade gave advice and assistance where adequate means of escape in case of fire was required.

Factories Act, 1961 - List of Factories
on Register at end of 1967

					<u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>	<u>No</u> <u>Mechanical</u> <u>Power</u>
Agricultural Engineers	..	..	..		1	-
Art Leather Works	..	..	..		1	-
Bakers	..	..	..	..	9	-
Basket Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Book Binder	..	..	..	..	1	-
Boot Makers and Repairers		..	..		3	-
Brick Makers, etc.	..	..	..	..	2	-
Brush Makers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Builders and Contractors	..	..	..		15	5
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers		..			8	1
Cork Disc and Insulation Manufacturers					1	-
Corn and Seed Merchants	..	..	..		2	-
Dressmakers and Milliners		..	..		6	2
Dry Cleaners	..	..	..	..	7	-
Engineers Automobile	..	..	..	..	29	-
Engineers Electrical	..	..	..	..	2	1
Engineers Light	..	..	..	..	36	1
Essence Makers	..	..	..	..	2	-
Film Processing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Food Manufacturers	..	..	..	..	1	-
Foundries	..	..	..	..	3	-
Fullers Earth Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Fur Processing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Furniture Making	..	..	..	..	1	-
Gas Holder Station	..	..	..	..	1	-
Glass Cutting and Paint Packing		..			1	1
Heating Engineers	..	..	..	..	3	-
Knacker's Yard	..	..	..	..	-	1
Laundries	..	..	..	..	4	-
Locomotive Repairs	..	..	..	..	1	-
Log Sawing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Mattress Manufacturer	..	..	..		1	-
Monumental Masons and Undertakers					2	-
Motor Body Repairs	..	..	..	..	7	-
Motor Cycle and Cycle Repairs		..			1	3
Newspaper Fudging	..	..	..	..	3	-
Photographic Works, etc.	..	..	..	..	3	-
Plastics Makers	..	..	..	..	6	-
Precast Concrete Manufacturers		..			1	-
Printers	..	..	..	..	8	-
Radio Repairs	..	..	..	..	-	1
Rust Proofing	..	..	..	..	1	-
Scale Repairers	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sewing Machine Repairs	..	..	..	..	2	-
Sheet Metal Workers	..	..	..	..	4	-
Soldering Outfit Assembly		..	..		1	-
Steel Wool Manufacturer	..	..	..		1	-
Suitcase Manufacturer	..	..	..		1	-
Tailors	..	..	..	..	3	1
Thermometer Manufacturer	..	..	..		1	-
Timber Merchants	..	..	..	..	3	-
Tyre Repairs	..	..	..	..	2	-
Watchmakers	..	..	..	..	3	-
Wax Refining Works	..	..	..	..	1	-
Building Sites and Works of Engineering Construction	..	..	..		50	-
					<hr/>	<hr/>
					TOTALS	
					253	17
					<hr/>	<hr/>

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.
House Purchase and Housing Acts, 1959 to 1964.

The Public Health Inspectors continued to supervise work in connection with standard grants and 34 applications were dealt with, 31 being approved. Schemes were completed at 37 houses and, in consequence, the following improvements were achieved:- 29 baths in separate bathrooms, 31 wash-hand basins, 24 hot water supplies, improved water closet accommodation in 33 cases and 17 foodstores installed. Four hundred and thirty visits of inspection were made in connection with this work generally. Only three applications for grants related to tenanted houses, a relatively small percentage of the total. Up to the end of the year around 309 applications for standard grants had been received since the inception of the scheme, and 245 of these had been approved.

Liaison continued to be exercised with the Borough Engineer in proposals dealing with discretionary grant applications, and 25 such cases were referred to this Department for observations during the year.

Consequent on this grant assistance generally, 82 housing units were brought up to a reasonable standard of both repair and amenity in 1967.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Inspections under the Act continued satisfactorily during the first half of the year and, as a result, only a few premises remained to be inspected. The loss of one Public Health Inspector from the staff caused a curtailment of the work later. About 141 general inspections were made under the Act, 253 visits were paid, and contraventions were noted at 105 premises. At the end of the period well over two thirds of the deficiencies had been remedied.

Inspections generally revealed better and more ready compliance with the Act, only minor contraventions being noted in the main; most of these were remedied by the end of the period. This more optimistic pattern locally must be offset to some extent by the fact that the premises in question included a much higher proportion in new development, also a number being re-registered on changes in occupancy. Items dealt with related in the main to cleansing and re-decoration, provision of thermometers, improvements to lighting, provision of hot water supply, remedying of structural defects and the provision of first aid boxes and abstracts.

On the question of prosecution under the Act, in one case only was it necessary to report to the Public Health Committee for authority to do so, relating to non compliance with requests to properly repair a winding stairway at a retail shop. However, the work was carried out shortly thereafter without the need to institute proceedings.

Accident notification remained at a steady level, the total of 16 being the same as in the previous year. As in 1966 involvements in falls, collisions or accidents whilst handling goods were the majority causes.

There was again a slight reduction in the premises on the register at the end of the year - from 682 to 677. Numbers of premises in the various categories, including in parenthesis the numbers of persons employed therein, were as follows:- 205 Offices (3,026), 404 Retail Shops (2,118), 15 Wholesale Premises (196), 52 Catering Establishments (399), 1 fuel storage depot (27).

A tabular statement on the various contraventions remedied in offices and shops is included on page 41.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957

This Order deals with the inspection and licensing of boiling-plants used by collectors of waste food for animal feeding. Such waste food may spread foot-and-mouth and other animal diseases if not properly boiled for at least one hour. Inspections of these waste food plants indicated that the requirements of the Order were being observed.

Fairground Sanitation:

Three fairs and one circus operating for short periods in the Borough during the year, were all visited and inspected for general sanitary arrangements. In one case it was again necessary to draw the attention of the occupier of the land to the requirement that adequate facilities must be readily available upon the arrival of the fair. Temporary sanitary accommodation and an emptying and cleansing service continued to be provided by the Council at appropriate charges.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, and Regulations, 1953. Oil Heater Regulations, 1962 and 1966

The Heating Appliances Regulations deal with safety standards in the construction of electric, gas and oil space heaters, and for the fixing of satisfactory fire guards. The standard now adopted by manufacturers to conform with the appropriate British Standard Specification ensures compliance with the requirements. Contraventions on retail sale are now a rarity, and none were reported during the year.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

In legislating for nuisances arising from noise and vibration, the Act does not lay down rigid standards on permissible noise levels; indeed it would appear most difficult to do so, variable as the problem will be in each case on location and distance, intensity and duration, and the time of day or night involved.

Seventeen complaints of noise nuisance were received during the year, and in six cases subsequent investigations revealed that there was justification for complaint. These cases were as follows:-

Road drills	- 1 incident	- Improvement achieved by muffling.
Woodcutting machinery	- 1 incident	- Operations ceased during investigations.
Factory machinery	- 3 incidents	- In two cases improvements to machinery and insulation. In the other case action to limit working hours.
Late night noise at a Youth Club	- 1 incident	- Improvement by general noise reduction, lower amplification, etc.

In no case was it necessary to seek authority to take formal action.

Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of premises	...	...	...	...	52
House Drainage	...	...	...	...	64
Cesspools overflowing	...	...	...	...	4
Non-removal of house refuse	...	...	...	...	5
Rats or Mice	...	...	...	...	532
Other Vermin (Foxes, Badgers, etc.)	...	...	...	...	16
Other insect pests	...	...	...	...	33
Wasps nests	...	...	...	...	189
Unsound food (sold)	...	...	...	...	23
Keeping of Animals, etc.	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke Nuisance	...	...	...	...	3
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	37

Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year:-

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1967	...	...	...	153
Issued during year	....	.....	...	166
Complied with during year	...	...	...	190
Statutory action necessary	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1967	...	...	...	129

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1967	...	...	...	-
Issued during year	...	...	...	-
Outstanding on 31st December, 1967	...	...	...	-

Nuisances Abated, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year, both voluntarily and in consequence of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food premises, factories, and other business premises.

Dwelling-Houses

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	9
Eaves-gutters and stack-pipes repaired	...	...	...	6
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	3
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork (houses)	...	...	...	6
Other causes of dampness remedied	...	...	...	9
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only)	...	...	...	142
Drainage systems repaired, extended or relaid	...	...	...	29
Block drains cleared	...	...	...	21
Soil or ventilation pipes installed or renewed	...	...	...	10
New W.C.'s. installed	...	...	...	34
W.C. apparatus renewed or repaired	...	...	...	6
Sewage treatment plants repaired	...	...	...	6
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	4
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	9
Floors, windows and doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	11
Food stores provided	...	...	...	18
Sinks installed or renewed	...	...	...	6
Wash-hand basins renewed or installed	...	...	...	38
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	3
Hot water supply installed	...	...	...	29
Baths installed	...	...	...	33
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	1
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	4

Food Premises

Food storage and display improved	...	...	...	6
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	17
Rooms cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	13
Plaster of walls and/or ceilings repaired	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12
Preparation tables repaired or renewed	...	...	...	3
Wash-hand basins installed	...	...	...	6
Ablution facilities otherwise improved	...	...	...	1
First Aid Equipment provided	...	...	...	4
Sinks renewed or installed	...	...	...	22
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	2
Dustbins renewed/bin areas improved	...	...	...	2
Drainage Improved	...	...	...	3
Other nuisances abated	...	...	...	4

Factories

Drainage systems improved	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1

Other business premises - Offices, Shops etc.

Rooms cleaned and redecorated	...	...	...	...	20
Floor coverings renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Lighting improved	...	...	...	...	8
Ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	1
Heating provided	...	...	...	...	2
Thermometers provided	...	...	...	...	35
Sanitary conveniences improved	...	...	...	...	5
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	5
Hot water provided	...	...	...	...	18
Clothing accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	9
Seats provided	...	...	...	...	4
Structural defects remedied	...	...	...	...	18
Machinery Guarded	...	...	...	...	8
First Aid Boxes provided	...	...	...	...	21
Abstracts displayed	...	...	...	...	30
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	1

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below, the table having been modified to conform with the simplified return now made annually to the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

		TYPE OF PROPERTY	
		NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1.	Number of properties in district	21,133	68
2 (a)	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	766	4
(b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	415	4
	(ii) Mice	103	0
3 (a)	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	129	27
(b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	39	14
	(ii) Mice	7	1

This work carried out by the District Pests Officers involved the following visits of inspection:-

Local Authority premises	831
Dwelling Houses	4,133
Business Premises	920
Agricultural Premises	320
TOTAL	<u>6,204</u>

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 - Rodent Control (Continued)

There was a fall in the number of rat infestations found during the year. Block control schemes continued to be helpful in extending control where notification had been received. The number of mice infestations found during the year was about the same as in 1966. All infestations of both rats and mice were dealt with by Pests Officers of the Department.

Inspection and control work on agricultural land was continued throughout the year, and period arrangements on a quarterly charge basis for regular disinfestations by the Pests Officers were continued with satisfactory results in seven cases, relating to three agricultural holdings and four business premises. Similar arrangements were also continued in respect of a large controlled tip in Merstham, where infestation was kept to a minimum. Charges at business premises continued unaltered, the occupier being required to meet the cost of the treatment on a basis of 10/- an hour, with a minimum charge of 15/-.

It has been normal practice in the past for the staff to conduct twice yearly a systematic inspection and treatment as necessary of the Borough sewerage system. For the past 5 years no evidence of rat infestation has been reported, and therefore checking measures for 1967 were modified to a minimum of inspection points, to include areas prone to infestation in the past. This operation involved the test baiting of approximately 100 manholes, without any "takes" being recorded. These negative results once again indicated that, for all practical purposes, the rat population in the sewers was nil.

The control work already detailed was exclusive of that carried out under contract arrangements with:-

- (a) The Surrey County Council at St. Anne's, Redhill, and its ancillary homes, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.;
- (b) The Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill General Hospital.

Apart from this rodent control work the officers were engaged from time to time at Corporation property in dealing with other pests, such as rabbits, foxes, badgers and moles. Also, 189 wasps' nests were destroyed during the summer period.

Education and Instruction

As in the past, educational visits were arranged to the Refuse Disposal Works, Sewage Works, Disinfecting Station and Caravan Sites. In the main, these visits were for organised parties of Student Nurses, Health Visitors and Public Health Inspectors in training.

